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**From:** Detlef Knappe [knappe@ncsu.edu]  
**Sent:** 3/15/2017 8:27:13 PM  
**To:** Sun, Mei [msun8@uncc.edu]; Strynar, Mark [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=5a9910d5b38e471497bd875fd329a20a-Strynar, Mark]; Lindstrom, Andrew [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=04bf7cf26aa44ce29763fbc1c1b2338e-Lindstrom, Andrew]  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd: ES&T Letters Best Papers of 2016

Congrats, Mei et al.!

I think I want to massage the adsorption part a little. Also, the abstract doesn't mention that PFECAs other than GenX were likely present at much higher concentrations. I will take a stab at it this evening.

Detlef

On 3/15/17 3:59 PM, Sun, Mei wrote:

Our ESTL paper is selected as one of the best papers of 2016! Thank you all for making this paper exciting :)  
Do you have anything to edit in the brief summary in the forwarded email below?

Mei Sun

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ariel Grostern** <[A\\_Grostern@acs.org](mailto:A_Grostern@acs.org)>  
Date: Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 12:47 PM  
Subject: ES&T Letters Best Papers of 2016  
To: "[msun8@uncc.edu](mailto:msun8@uncc.edu)" <[msun8@uncc.edu](mailto:msun8@uncc.edu)>  
Cc: "Bruce Logan ([bel3@engr.psu.edu](mailto:bel3@engr.psu.edu))" <[bel3@engr.psu.edu](mailto:bel3@engr.psu.edu)>

Sent on behalf of Dr. Bruce E. Logan

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Dear Dr. Sun,

On behalf of the editors of *Environmental Science & Technology Letters*, it is my pleasure to inform you that your paper "Legacy and Emerging Perfluoroalkyl Substances Are Important

Drinking Water Contaminants in the Cape Fear River Watershed of North Carolina” (DOI: 10.1021/acs.estlett.6b00398) has been selected as one of the Best Papers of 2016. Congratulations!

We are going to hold off from making any official announcements until the ES&T session at the ACS meeting in April, so please don't say anything to anyone (except your co-authors) until we make the announcement.

The Best Papers of 2016 will also be announced via the April ES&T Letters Editorial, in which there will be a short write-up of each paper. To ensure accuracy of how we represent your paper, can you please review the following paragraph and **provide any suggested edits by March 19?** Please send any edits to Ariel Grostern, ES&T Letters Managing Editor (cc'd here).

While it is well established that perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are contaminants present in many aquatic systems, the broad range of structures of these chemicals are only beginning to be understood. The paper “Legacy and Emerging Perfluoroalkyl Substances Are Important Drinking Water Contaminants in the Cape Fear River Watershed of North Carolina” by Mei Sun, Elisa Arevalo, Mark Strynar et al. reported on the detection of a class of “alternative” fluorinated chemicals, the perfluoroalkyl ether carboxylic acids, in river water and at different stages of the drinking water treatment processes. These compounds and legacy PFASs were detected in raw and finished waters at concentrations ranging from tens to hundreds of ng/L, with perfluoro-2-propoxypropanoic acid being particularly prevalent. While perfluorinated carboxylic and sulfonic acids with chain lengths > 7 could be removed by powdered activated carbon, the mono- and multi- ethers were not effectively removed. This work suggests the need for monitoring a broader range of fluorinated substances and for developing new removal techniques to safeguard consumers of treated water. *Environ. Sci. Technol. Lett.*, **2016**, 3(12), 415–419 | DOI: 10.1021/acs.estlett.6b00398

Congratulations on your achievement. ES&T Letters is pleased to publish urgent, high quality papers such as yours, and we hope that you will continue send us your best work in the future.

Sincerely,

Bruce Logan

Editor, *Environmental Science & Technology Letters*

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**Ariel Grostern, PhD**

Managing Editor, *ES&T*, *ES&T Letters* and *JAFC*

American Chemical Society

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